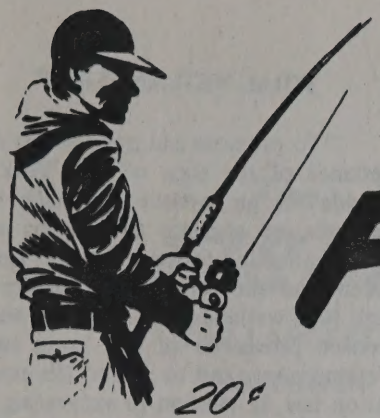
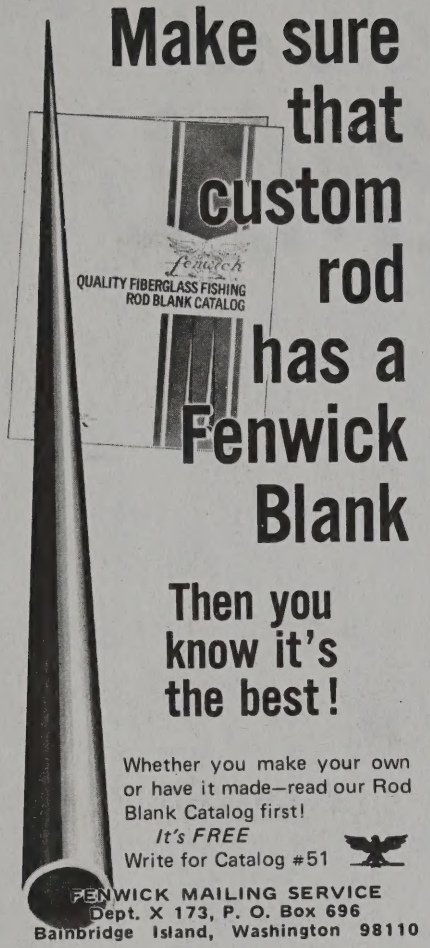


The Long Island FISHERMAN

MARCH 16th, ISSUE NO. 9, 1972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Dear Rich,

In the latest issue of your publication, I read of your planned L.I.F. Contest. Though our members are a pretty closed mouth bunch, the incentive you offer should stir them up a bit if it is made easy to enter.

This can be done by having applications available in our clubhouse. We would also be happy to serve as a weigh-in station if that is a part of your rules.

If you will please be so kind as to send me a number of applications, I will see that they are distributed to our members during the coming fishing season. Good luck, Wade Denning, Chairman Prize and Contest Comm.

Glad to have your club aboard, both as participants and as a weigh-in station. The applications are on the way.

Ivan Krupit of the Riverbay Sportsmen's Club writes:

We are certainly interested in the L.I.F. Contest & Record Book. Can you send us a supply of your rules and regulations, as well as your application forms for our next meeting?

Many thanks for your kind co-operation, Ivan J. Krupit, General Secretary.

O.K., Ivan, the applications are on the way. We are sending an extra supply for your club to have on hand for future entries.

TIDAL WETLANDS ACT

"To promote and preserve the tidal wetlands of the state of New York, to provide for an inventory of such tidal wetlands, to regulate activity on such tidal wetlands, to provide for zoning orders and tax valuation guidelines for such tidal wetlands, and to repeal and to reenact provisions of the Long Island Wetlands Act, and to amend the conservation law, in relation to excavating and placing fill in the navigable waters of the state."

The above preamble summarized the important intent of N.Y. Senate Bill No. 5364 under current consideration in Albany. Introduced by Messrs. B.C. Smith, Bronston, Gioffre, Galiber, Goldin, Lewis, Powers, Ohrenstein, this act could be the answer to the single most serious conservation problem immediately affecting Long Island: the disappearance of our marshes.

Most pollution damage can be undone in a few years, once pollution ceases. The natural cleansing process of nature sees to that. But our marshes took about 10,000 years to build. We'll never see them again if they go.

All of our popular coastal fishes spend at least part of their lives in the wetlands; all marine creatures depend on the production of nutrients which only marshes provide.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

L.I.F. CONTEST & RECORD BOOK

After last week's blurb about our uncontested contest, the inquiries came pouring in. We are now in the process of answering all the questions. However, once again, no entries were received by deadline day, and so the Rich Reina Tackle Fund received another $12.00.

I now repeat last week's request. If you have questions, send them in. We'll answer all of them. If you need entry blanks, ask your local tackle dealer. If he hasn't got them, send in you request to: The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box] 43, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

Most important, if you catch a fish, enter it in the contest. As it stands now, a 1 lb. flounder would not only have won last week's contest, but it would have been a temporary record. The entrant would also have been the only one eligible for the $50.00 prize for March and his name would have gone into the hat for the year-end grand slam.

There's still time to cash in on the March prize, plus of course, the weekly $12.00, so get your entry in.

Count on it...your Crack Spinning Reel will be true to your aim. Crack hits the mark and spins 'em in everytime. No tangle. No twist. Unlimited guarantee against any fault in workmanship. Crack, the real French reel. Get them at your tackle shop or write for a catalog.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 7 NO. 9 MARCH 9, 1972

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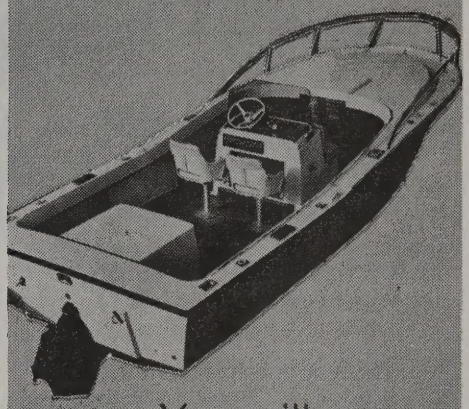

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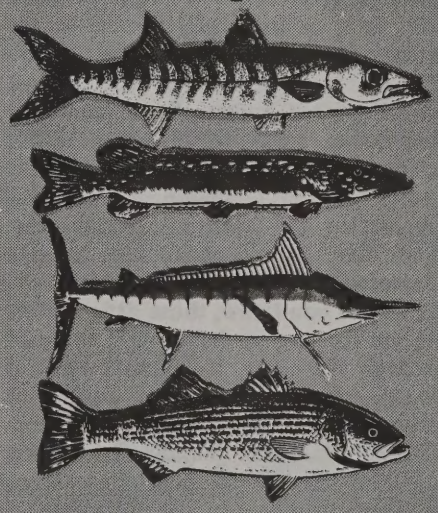

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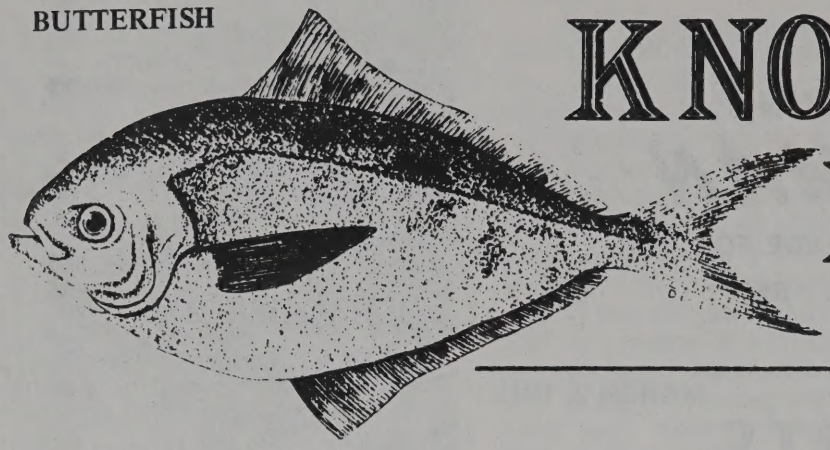

KNOW YOUR FISH!

by TONY DI FEDE

≫ There is one thing about studying fish that never ceases to amaze and puzzle me. And that is their common names. Many fish have more than one common name, some are regional (used only in a certain area) and some are universally known. You could, if you were so inclined, devote years to just studying fishes' names. Some names are descriptive, some relate to the fish's habits, some to its appearance and some have no rhyme or reason. That is what amazes me and sometimes puzzles me. Some time back I was looking through a scientific journal for information on shiners - - you know, those little fellows we use for snapper bait. Well, as I read through the paper, I realized I was not reading about the shiner I wanted to know about. I leafed back to the technical summary and found I was reading about the species Poronotus treacanthus or what we know to be the Butterfish!

In preparation for this article, I reread the journal which referenced other works. Everyone it seems has a different common name for Butterfish. Dollarfish, Harvestfish, Jack, Skipjack, Sheepshead, and Shiner are all one and the same - - Butterfish. I'm sure there must be more names floating around, but luckily I didn't find them. Right off you get the feeling all these names are very familiar. There are at least two other fish with each of those names. Right! Fourteen fish, at least, share the same names. Confusing, isn't it?

The reason for all this name talk is to impress you with the fact that a fish's common name is not always a reliable term, especially if you don't know what it looks like or if the source doesn't have an illustration. The scientific name is the most reliable. I said most because some scientists are not satisfied with some species. Various species of fish are being reclassified and/or divided into sub-species.

Well, on to Butterfish!

There are two members of the Butterfish family Stromateidae that are of interest to us. Besides the fellow pictured above, there is the Harvestfish (Peprilus alepidotus) also called Starfish. Both species have thin bodies, deeply forked, pointed caudal fins, and wing shaped pectorals. There the obvious similarities end. The Butterfish has an oval-shaped body. Whereas the Harvestfish's body is much more round with a flatter snout. The other major difference is in the dorsal and anal fins. The Harvestfish's dorsal and anal fins are much larger with the forward portion of each fin sweeping back to a point and about 4 or 5 times higher than the rear part of the fins. The Harvestfish's dorsal and anal look very much like a sickle with the anal fin being the larger of the two.

Notice that the Butterfish has no ventral fins. This lack of ventrals easily distinguishes it from the real jack and sheepshead.

The mouth is small and the teeth are weak and barely effective. Butterfish feed primarily on small squid, fish, worms and crustacean.

Grayish blue is the Butterfish's basic body color. The sides are a paler shade and the belly is silvery. The sides are marked with irregular spots which fade away after death. The Harvestfish is a greenish silver with yellow highlights.

The various populations of Butterfish show a seasonal inshore/offshore migration. Winter finds them in deep warm water, as deep as 600 feet or possibly deeper. During the spring they move inshore. By late spring and all during the summer it is believed that they do not venture much deeper than 175 feet. They have a definite preference for sandy bottoms and when they have moved into bays and estuaries during the summer they may appear in areas as shallow as 4 or 5 feet. They generally run in loose schools while inshore, usually near the surface. They are not predictable in that once they move into a particular area there is no guarantee they will be there very long or that they will return. But this is of no consequence to fishermen since Butterfish have no real angling value.

Butterfish spawn during late spring and summer. Ripe females and males move about three miles out to sea to spawn. Once spawning is complete, they return to close inshore waters. Butterfish's eggs are bouyant and take about 48 hours to hatch. Within a short time after hatching, the larvae are capable of swimming. Once they reach 2 or 3 inches they swim freely. Some fry of this size associate with large jellyfish for protection. They swim agilely between the deadly tenticles. Some, of course, fall prey to the jellyfish, but this strange relationship is definitely to the Butterfish's advantage. Also, the habit of moving out to sea to spawn is a protective mechanism. Even with the relatively short incubation period and rapid growth, breeding close inshore could virtually be disasterous to the season's spawn because of the great number of potential preditors. The intricacy of nature's plan is really amazing.

Commercially, the Butterfish is important, of course, as a baitfish and as a food fish. They are primarily used smoked and for fish patties and cakes. They are very fatty, oily and tasty.

I'm sure I've probably eaten Butterfish unknowlingly in fish cakes, patties or soup and liked it. But somehow after close association with sun-cooked Butterfish chum, I don't think I could pan-fry a Butterfish and enjoy eating it! Alas, one of the very few disadvantages of being a fisherman! ⩓

FEATURE

JOHNNY CHRONIC & THE REGULARS

BY AL REINFELDER

(All names changed to protect the guilty)

It was a typical day for surf casters at Monamug Point: nobody had caught anything! Thus, the usual crowd of hangers-around were in their customary positions in the venerable tackle shop known as "Chronic's Tackle Emporium/ Last Bait Station before Monamug Point." No one said anything. Outside, on Monamug Highway, very little traffic was moving. Being the last shop on the block, Johnny's stood out like a small castle in the guise of a corner grocery store. All was peaceful and serene.

A red jeep drove up. A tall bearded man in a wet suit got out and walked to the back of the vehicle from where he pulled a darting-type plug about twenty inches long. He took it with him when he walked into the store.

"It's the "Perfessor," said Willy the Worrier to no one in particular, as the tall gentleman walked into the tackle shop and placed the large wooden plug on top of the glass counter.

"Look at this plug," commanded the man identified as 'The Perfessor;" "every hook on it has been straightened by a fish so large that no one in this room has ever seen one like it!"

Willy the Worrier walked out the door, mumbling, "Gee, I'd better check over the hooks on my plugs right now. Wow!"

Carl the Cop said, "Hi perfessor. How come I didn't see you at the pernt this mornin'?"

"I wasn't at the point, I was at Casper's, where I hooked a fish which would have been the world's record, had it not gotten away by straightening every hook on my Special Large Darter-Type Super Plug."

Big Billie and Louie the Loser did not participate in the conversation at all, but continued to examine the pictures of famous Monamug anglers which decorated the walls of Johnny Chronic's shop. Big Billie was staring at a picture of "The Frenchman" taken at Trouble Cove in 1947. The Frenchman was looking over his shoulder at the cameraman, while simultaneously dragging two striped bass which looked to be about 35 or 40 pounds. He carried a twelve foot rod with two guides on it. A large tin squid with a feather hung from the tip. Louie the Loser was trying to read the inscription which said, "To Johnny, you old bastard. You told me the fish were at Shagmop, but they were really at the Bone Yard. Frenchy!"

The Perfessor continued to stare at his monstrous plug with three sets of mangled 8/0 treble hooks. He was about to speak again of the tremendous fight he had just encountered when a cream colored sedan drove up and came to a stop behind the Perfessor's red jeep. A man came out and walked toward the store. He wore a short sleeved sport shirt, and a nautical looking hat with some gold braid on it. When he walked into the store, he looked around at the cluster of men, assumed that they were all customers waiting to buy something, and began looking around at the tackle.

There was a rod rack with five rods in it. He studied each one, and then turned to the plugs hanging from a wire in the front window. The plugs had been in the window so long that they were all two-toned from exposure to the sun. One plug, especially susceptible to the effects of heat, had blown up into a blue and white banana shaped monstrosity, the size of a bologna. After a while, he grew tired of examining these things and so he stood next to the Perfessor, who he guessed was being waited on by the proprietor who was getting something in the back. Presently, he began to suspect that the owner might be off on a long chore.

"Excuse me sir," the customer asked of the Perfessor, "but when do you expect to be served?"

"Huh?" asked the Perfessor, jarred from his day dreamings, "what did you say?"

"Where is the owner?" replied the man.

"Goddamn tourists," murmered Bob the Beggar, who viewed the newcomer with noticeable distain, "always askin' stupid questions."

"HEY JOHNNY," screamed Carl the Cop, who wanted to borrow Chronic's lead pot, anyway, "SOME GUY HERE TO BUY SOMETHING."

The customer started at the outburst, but was cheered by the fact that

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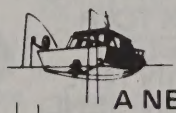
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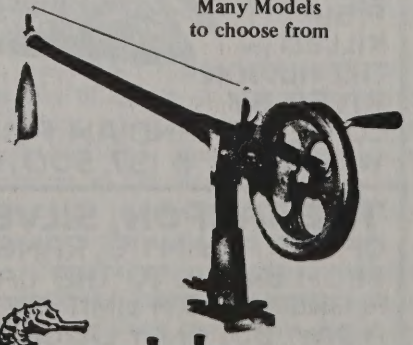
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FISH & GAME NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

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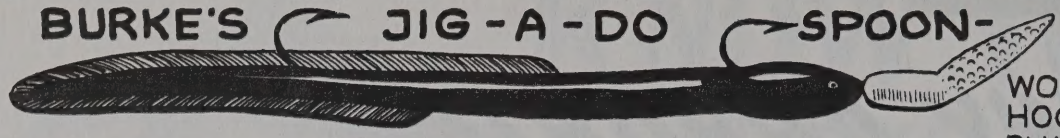

CAUGHT THE WORLD'S HEAVIEST HOOK AND LINE BLUEFISH, 31 LB. 12 OZ., JAN. 30, 1972 AT CAPE HATTERAS, NORTH CAROLINA BY JAMES HUSSEY OF TARBORO.

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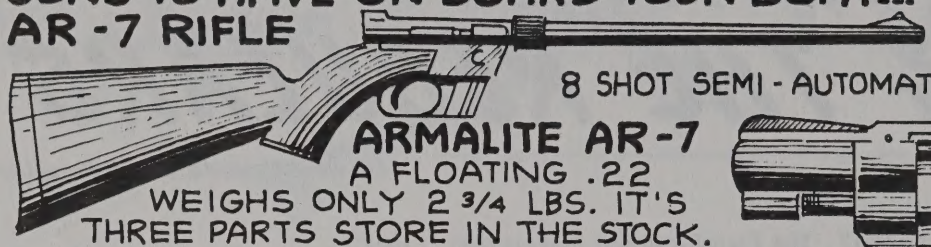

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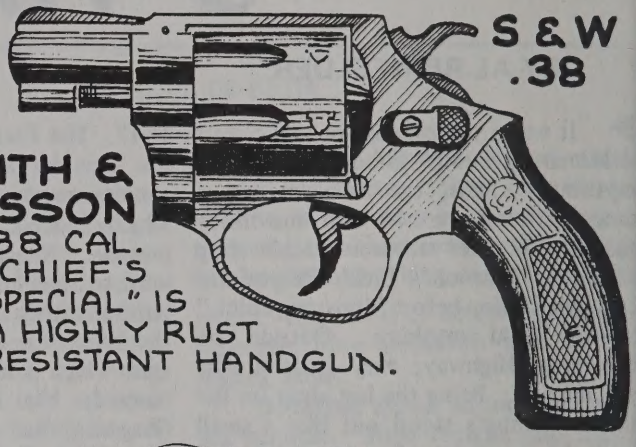

S & W .38

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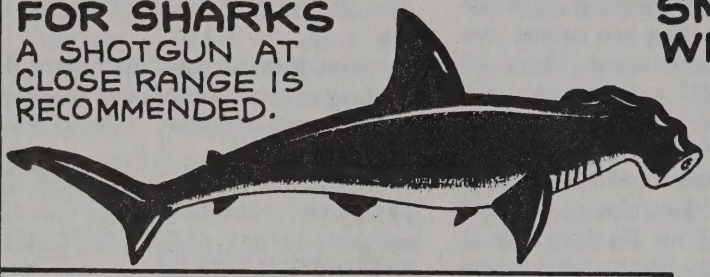

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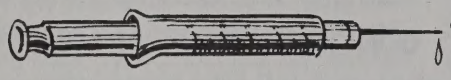
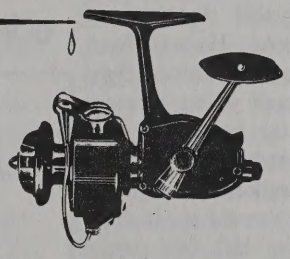




IS THE BEST WAY TO INJECT OIL INTO A FISHING REEL. *"VERBOTEN"* IN N.Y. STATE, YOU CAN SEND FOR THEM AT BILL BOATMAN & CO., BAINBRIDGE, OHIO, 45612. SYRINGE $1.95, NEEDLES 25 ¢.

ELEPHANTS THREATENED.

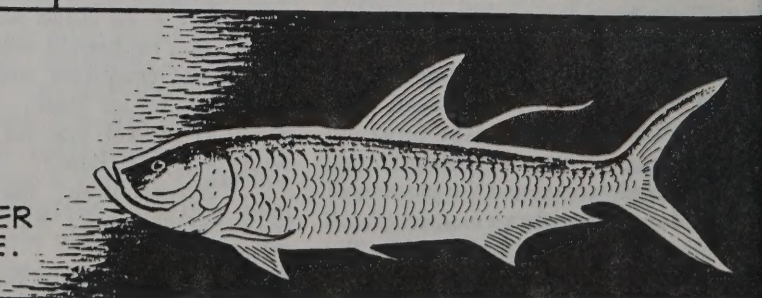
UGANDA, AFRICA, IS OFFERING A CONTRACT TO KILL 20,000 ELEPHANTS FOR THEIR HIDES AND 160 MILLION POUNDS OF MEAT — TO ESTABLISH *UJAMMAS*, OR KIBBUTZ-STYLE VILLAGES IN THE BUSH FOR THE GROWING POPULATION.

DEAD BASS...

IF N.Y. STATE COLLECTED THE STANDARD $27.50 FINE FOR THE 5,000,000 FISH KILLED IN THE HUDSON RIVER BY CON ED AT INDIAN POINT, THE TAB WOULD BE $137,500,000.

THE TARPON, SILVER KING

OF THE ATLANTIC, RANGES THE SEA FROM BRAZIL TO THE CAROLINAS. FLORIDA HAS A LIMIT OF TWO TARPON A DAY, BUT ONLY LARGE ONES ARE KEPT FOR MOUNTING. CONSIDERED INEDIBLE BY ALL BUT THE AMAZON RIVER INDIANS WHO EAT TARPON ALL THE TIME.



WILL AUTOMATION RUIN FISHING?

by VLAD EVANOFF

≫ During my lifetime I have seen many advances and improvements in the fishing field. The new fishing rods, reels, lines, lures and accessories are far better and superior to similar tackle in the old days. And in some ways this new tackle is more sporting and lighter and provides more fun and sport for the angler.

But during the same period I have also seen another trend which, in my opinion, is less worthy or even dangerous to the pursuit and enjoyment and future of fishing. This is the trend toward more inventions or gadgets or gear which makes fishing easier, less effort and more efficient.

We have seen what some of the new methods and improvements in commercial fishing have done to our coastal and offshore fisheries. Bigger and better mother ships, catcher boats, nets, electronic equipment and ways of locating schools of fish have endangered our commercial and sport fisheries. And more and more nations are getting into the act and adding their fishing fleets to the other boats already on the scene. The poor fish in the ocean do not stand a chance. Modern commercial fishing methods are getting too efficient for their own good.

But the smae trend is showing up in sport fishing too and the modern angler depends less and less on his own native ability and skill and experience to locate and catch fish. Now he has to have a fish finder aboard and other electronic gear to help him locate fish. His own eyes, knowledge of the fishing grounds, bottom and habits of the fish aren't good enough as in the past. He has to have a guarantee that fish are present before he starts fishing.

And you see more and more airplanes being used to locate fish or schools of fish along the beaches or offshore. Commercial fishermen have used them for years to find tuna, swordfish, menhaden and other species. But in recent years many sport fishermen have used their own planes or hired planes to find fish for them.

Now I can see the use of the fish-finders or airplanes by commercial fishermen or even charter boat captains. Their living depends on locating fish and they can't waste any time. But is it sporting to locate fish by these methods if you are just fishing for fun?

More and more you see both fresh and salt-water anglers doing less and less walking and more riding to the fishing grounds. In many states surveys have shown that fishermen will concentrate on easily reached fishing spots, but do not walk to more remote areas. Even the rugged surf angler is getting soft and lazy. He no longer walks much, but rides in a beach buggy along the beach. Or he stays in a beach buggy or camper which is actually a "home" on wheels. Such comforts as bunks for sleeping, a stove, water tank, pantry, cooler, tackle compartments, rod carriers, boat carrier and radio are found on most of these vehicles. No wonder many of these surf anglers spend more time eating, drinking beer, playing cards or sleeping than actually fishing.

Or take big-game fishing which used to be a difficult sport in the early days. The old-type boats and equipment used in the pioneer days of offshore fishing made it a real feat to boat a big fish. It required skill, know-how, and hard work. It still does if you go out in your own boat and do all your own fishing. But today almost anyone can go out and catch a big fish by merely chartering a boat. Old men, kids, and women have all caught big fish weighing several hundred pounds in recent years.

The biggest lie in offshore fishing is a snapshot showing a proud angler standing next to a big fish. Such a photo fails to give credit to the captain, the mate or crew, the boat itself, the fighting chair, rod and reel, gaff, outriggers and all the rest of the gear that played a big part in the catch. In other words it took thousands of dollars of equipment to catch one fish!

On some charter boats the captain or mate presents the bait to the fish, sets the hook, adjusts the drag on the reel and hands the rod to the angler. They manuever the boat, chase the fish and correct mistakes made by the angler. So those who really know agree that most of the credit for catching a big fish should go to the captain and mate and not the angler.

And now they are even experimenting with fish callers to bring the fish to the scene. Chumming isn't enough---now they are trying to call fish to the scene with fish "talk". I don't know what kind of talk they are trying to imitate---a smaller fish in distress or perhaps a female fish looking for company. But is it fair or sporting to use such a call on fish?

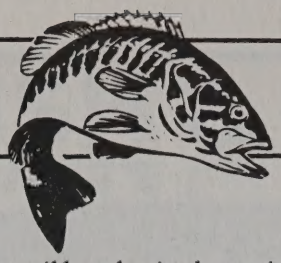
Or take fish lures, for example. Anglers have been looking for the perfect lure that never fails since Izaak Walton's time. As soon as someone advertises a lure that fish can't resist or a lure that is so deadly that it has been banned in some states, they can't make enough of them. They sell hundreds of thousands of the infallible lure until word gets around that it isn't such a fish killer after all.

It's true, though, that fishing lures made these days are very good---a lot better than those made in earlier days. Most of them are beautifully finished and have a terrific action. But some anglers are never satisfied--- they want a lure that works ALL the time.

Too many anglers today can't stand the idea of failure---or at least their idea of failure, which means to come home empty-handed or skunked. They want a guarantee of fish everytime they go out. They want to be certain there are fish present for the taking.

So what---you may ask? What's the harm if a fisherman wants to take it easy on a fishing trip? Why should he knock himself out walking if he can ride? What's wrong with knowing beforehand that there are fish present? If a man can

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



FRESH WATER ANGLING

BY AL CROSS

This mild and mixed-up winter is passing quickly, and by the time this article goes to print, opening day of the trout season will be close at hand. No doubt you have already had your rods and tackle boxes out and have been checking over your equipment as you day dreamed of pleasant days soon to come.

Besides getting your gear all set, you have probably been wondering how and when our Conservation people will be stocking our lakes and streams this season. For this reason I paid a visit to Al Kellar at our Conservation Office and obtained the stocking program as planned for this year.

I will start first with a rundown on the rivers and streams. Carlls River, between Argyle Lake in Babylon and Southards Pond in North Babylon, will get 500 browns by Arpil 1st and 500 more by May 1st. Carlls River, North Babylon, between Southard's Pond and Belmont Lake State Park is due for 500 brook trout by April 1st and an additional 500 by May 1st. Carlls River, between Southard's Pond and Phelps (or Elda) Lake will be stocked with 200 brookies April 1st and 200 more by the first of May. Carmans River, Yaphank, between Upper and Lower Lake, will receive 550 brookies, and the Southaven section within Suffolk Park (special fishing regulations in effect) 250 brookies and 250 rainbow trout by the first of April, with 250 additional of each by May 1st. Still later, by June 1st, this section will have received an additional 300 brookies and 300 rainbows. Champlins Creek, Islip, from Brookhaven Hall Pond to upstream one mile, will get 220 brook trout. Orowoc Creek, Islip, from Moffit Boulevard north to Brook Street, is due for 420 brookies by April 1st. Swan River, in Patchogue, from East Swan Lake upstream 1.2 miles will receive 300 brooks by April 1st and 240 more by the beginning of May. The Nissequogue River, in Smithtown, from Jericho Turnpike north 1.6 miles will have a stocking of 2000 brooks by April and 2000 browns by May.

Now add to the above list Beaverdam Creek in Brookhaven, Connetquot River in Oakdale, Crabmeadow Creek in Northport, Wapping River in the town of the same name, and again the Nissequogue, all tidal rivers that receive heavy fall stocking of browns for the purpose of developing a sea run strain. These rivers and tidal creeks are your best bet for holdover trout. You will find all five of these rivers and creeks can provide some good, hefty fish, which might surprise even the most seasoned of you trout anglers.

Getting on now to the lakes and ponds, we'll start with Avon Pond in Amityville. Three hundred brookies will go in there by opening day. Canaan Lake in Patchogue will get 1,300 brooks by April 1st and 1,200 by May 1st. East or Swan Lake, Patchogue, will receive 600 brooks by April and 500 more by May. West Lake, in Patchogue, is due for 1,100 brooks by April and 1,000 more by May. Freeport Reservoir is to get 900 brooks before April 1st and 800 more by May. Laurel Lake, in Laurel, is due for 1,000 brookies by May 1st. Massapequa Reservoir, in Massapequa, gets 1,000 brooks by April and 1,000 browns by May. Mill Pond, in Oyster Bay, will have 400 brooks by April and 300 more by May Kahlers Pond in East Moriches will ge 500 brooks by April and 500 browns b May. Wildwood Lake in Riverhead wi receive 1,000 browns by May 1st. Ther last, but by no means least, Hards Lake in Southaven Park. (special fishing regul tions in effect) is due for 800 brooks an 800 rainbows by April 1st, another 80 of each by May 1st, and then 900 of eac by the first of June.

As to the location of these lake and ponds, I will try to give you a quic rundown on each. For Avon Pond Amityville, take Broadway (Route 110 to Avon Place, then east on Avon t Lake Drive. For Canaan Lake in Patcho gue, take Sunrise Highway to North Ocean Avenue, north on that six tenth of a mile to Shaber Road and west or Shaber. East Lake, Patchogue, is on the north side of Montauk Highway (Rt. 27A) eight-tenths of a mile east of Medford Avenue (Rte. 112). West Lake in Patchogue is on the north side of Montauk Highway one and one-tenth miles west of Medford Avenue. Hards Lake in Suffolk County Park, Southaven, is reached thru the entrance gate located on the North Service Road off Sunrise Highway between Yaphank Road (Exit 54N.) and William Floyd Parkway (Exit 55N.). For Laurel Lake, Laurel, take Main Road (Rte. 25) east of Riverhead ot Laurel Lake Road. Go north on that two-tenths of a mile to the lake. Note: Laurel Lake Rd. is not easy to spot, so watch for it carefully just before you approach the village of Mattituck. Kahlers Pond is on the north side of Montauk Highway between Center and East Moriches. Wildwood Lake is off Moriches-Riverhead Rd. about one and four-tenths miles southwest of Riverhead traffic circle. For Mill Pond, in Oyster Bay, take West Main St. to West Shore Rd. and Lake Ave. For Massapequa Reservoir, take Sunrise Highway to Broadway, go north one block on Broadway to Brooklyn, then east on that to the end of the block and the entrance to the Reservoir. For Freeport Reservoir, take Sunrise Highway to Babylon Turnpike in Merrick. Go north on that to the hill over Meadowbrook Causeway. You may park your car by the Armory or by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

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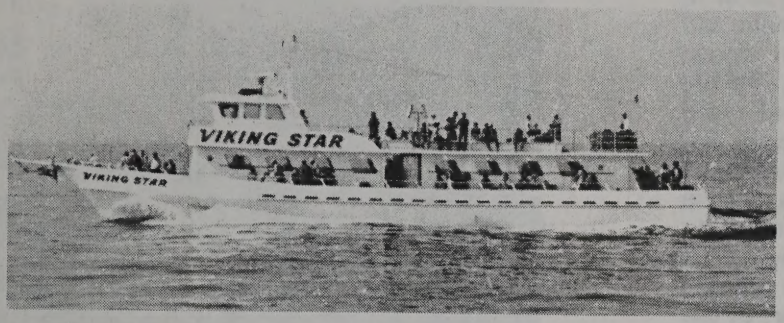

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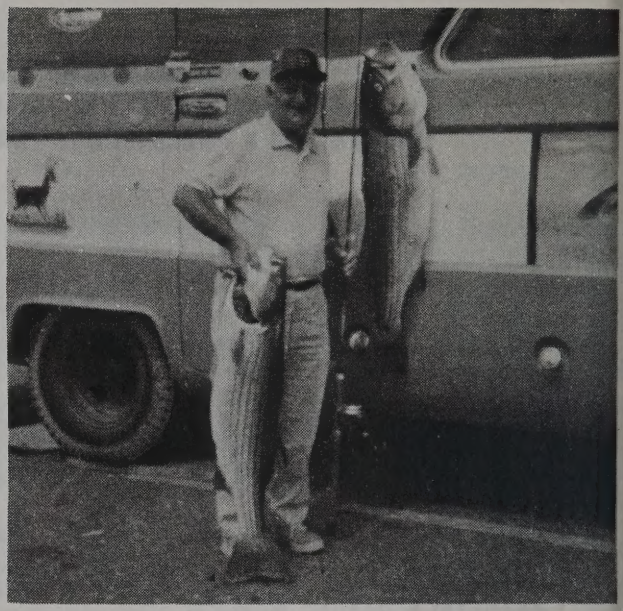
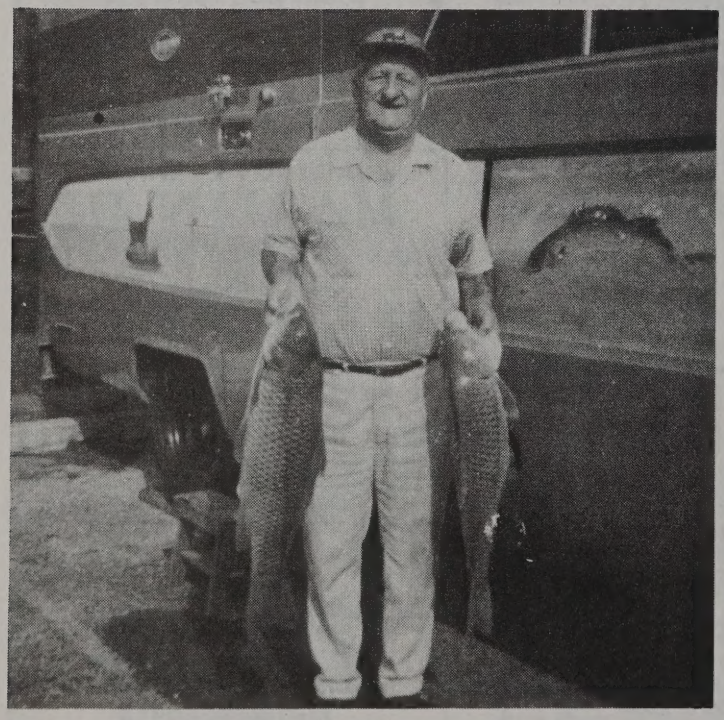
MATTITUCK

From time to time we hope that veterans of the beaches will shed their modesty a little, and share some of their many surfcasting years with us. Patriarchs, I think, should be over 60 years young; and should be fishing the surf at least 30 years. The first to agree to tell us of it, Sol Carrol, is most appropriately from old Brooklyn. There are others, hidden strong sportsmen of incredibly many seasons, like big Hugo on the south shore. Some are more widely famous, like Long Island's Serge De-Somove, who won four Martha's Vineyard Derbies. And there's Charlie Graves, whose metal jigs are so prized and sought after by Long Island surfmen. There are many others that you may have met, or seen on the beaches. All are an inspiration for this great sport in the high surf.



PATRIARCHS OF THE SURF



BY VINCE GUAGLIANONE
associate editor

≫ The first time I met Sol Carrol, he was driving his huge camper-home into Squibnocket field on the Vineyard, while I was starting up to leave.

"Hey. Where's the bass? Where's the bass?"

Immediately the voice and quick, easy manner took me back to Brooklyn of the old days. We lingered in what was the first of my several exposures to a ceaseless barrage of incorrigible wit, and fishing wisdom, and good cheer that comes from Sol. We met again that week when Sol won a prize in the derby for a 25-pounder which beat, that time, even DeSomov's bass for that day. "But DeSomov got me on points for age for the Senior Fishermen Award. He's got four years on me."

Sol was born 67 years ago. And this sin't the first time that he has been in print. In the Original Celtics, 50 years ago, he was that famous basketball team's mascot; and then he became a trainer. (It's his contention that Nat Holman is the greatest player that ever lived.) Afterward, Sol became a noted player on many teams of New York's east side. He has been written up also for trophy catches; and a number of interesting things.

"But the first three bass I ever caught were at 'the Bogs', in Staten Island, near Midland. That was 35 years ago . . . It's all ruined there now. Hey, I fell into the water carrying those fish

back!"

Sol remembers when you could catch pollack casting from the Breezy Point Jetty 35 years ago. He used to sleep overnight on those rocks. Plenty of bass in the fifties were gaffed on live eels off the Rockaway jetties in those days. He doesn't think the fishing is as good now as it used to be. "Young men in the surf could catch more than just two or three 30 and 40-pound bass on a tide in those days. You don't hear of this anymore."

In his youth, Sol was such a good salesman that he could often take off to go fishing. He also became a demonstrator at sports shows for Ocean City reels and Montague rods, and for many other companies. Once, at the New York Sports Show in the Coliseum, Sol wore all his innumerable Schaefer pins and various club pins and it was remarked: "Here comes the Russian Field Marshall."

Sol was a member of Sportsmans Anglers; the Rockaway Boatman's and Fisherman's Club; and the Manhattan Beach Fishing Club. He took three outstanding trophies for striped bass catches; and his old home in Brooklyn was full of awards for surf-caught fish. Our Brooklyn patriarch owns about 100 rods and reels, including some fantastic deep sea tackle. – But –

"Hey, I'm a surfman. Caught plenty of fish from boats - I don't like it as much . . . Other guys with me in those days, they got old. They bought boats. Not me. I'm gonna stay in the surf! And who else do you know who bought a 16 thousand-dollar fiberglass motor-home – I wish it was 4-wheel drive – just to chase bass and fish the whole east coast!"

Sol retired three years ago after working his last job in Herman's Sporting Goods store in Manhattan. "Some people said to me: "Sol, don't retire. You won't know what to do with yourself!"

"Hey, are you crazy? Listen. Every day I buy the N.Y. Times. I read the obituary column that day. If I don't find my name in the obituary column, I know I got it made for that day: Goin' fishin'! But when I find my name in the obituaries: Oh-oh! Can't go fishin' today."

From New York to Florida to Nova Scotia and back down, Sol and his lovely, charming wife Jean chase the fish. (Jean's biggest thus far is a 25-pound bass.) The Enfield Dam in Connecticut; salmon in Mountain River in Quebec; the Miramichee in New Brunswick; small-mouth bass in Maine; stripers in Nova Scotia; channel bass off Cape Hatteras. You name it. Large mouth bass, and snook in Florida. (The hungry writer's head is swimming.)

ANGLERS PRAYER
COME IN, SIT DOWN, RELAX, CONVERSE, OUR HOUSE DOESN'T ALWAYS LOOK LIKE THIS SOMETIMES IT'S EVEN WORSE"
OLD-FISHERMEN NEVER DIE... THEY JUST CAN'T RAISE THEIR FISHING POLE
CHEER UP!
POVERTY
THE HELL WITH WORK!

OUR BROOKLYN PATRIARCH'S CAMPER HOME IS FULL OF PHOTOS OLD AND NEW OF SOL AND OTHERS AND THEIR BEACHED FISH

Our Brooklyn-patriarch's camper-home is full of photos, old and recent of Sol and others and their beached fish. (Note, for example, in our photo of the camper's door, the dim picture of lunkers.)

"Listen. All fishermen lie. Unless I see the fish, or a picture of it, I don't believe words. Because all fishermen lie, except you and me of course, and I'm not so sure about you!"

Of Rhode Island, where Sol used to go every weekend for years, he has photos of himself and huge bass; taken with the great Jerry Sylvester; with Joe Torturri; and with Bernie Calitre, who beached a 61 pounder by the Charlestown Breach. Sol got a 45 that time. His biggest striper was a clean 50, beached at Montauk, at "The Transformers" in the fall of 1967. His biggest surf-caught fish was a 55-pound channel bass in North Carolina in 1944 on a Tuma's block tin. Amongst Sol's many "old cronies" are Vlad Evanoff and Nick Kuzin and Joe Caparrata, "anglers vs. fishermen" champ.

Sol has a feeling. "Get young people to go for surf fishing. That's a good hope, for them and for the beaches too. There's a lot less beaches now than before, and fewer and fewer young people who get to know this sport for real. But I keep moving because there are less and less places to fish the way I like it."

When I ran into Sol at Montauk last October (and he took a 17-pounder on a popper then), we decided to do this article. Previously, when we met up in Rhode Island (our meetings weren't planned) Sol beached fish 38 and 32 pounds at Narragansett (as shown in photo). He made me promise to tell you that, in 1970, from the new Marco Island Bridge in Florida, he caught the first real size fish from that new bridge. "A 32 pound jewfish on Saint Patty's Day - because I'm Jewish, laughed Sol. "And I sprained my arm carrying that damned thing off the bridge. Couldn't fish for two weeks after."

In a recent letter, Sol sent a photo of the 13 pound carp; and he wrote, "Please send picture back to me. I want to remember that I too can be a lingjerker."

No writer could ever present the depth and uniqueness of a personality. Sol Carrol is a true, beautiful sportsman who has that love for our sport and this can't be adequately verbalized. He wants you to catch fish.

"It's all a matter of luck . . . If a fish likes the way your lure moves in the water, striko! You were there when the fish was. Luck, that's all. Of course, with a big fish, you need a little skill to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Opportunities Await The Jetty Jockey At Staten Island

by FRANK A. BERRAFATO

≫ Surfcasting, and fishing in general, has declined in recent years at Staten Island. The shorelines of Fort Wadsworth, South Beach and Midland Beach yield wooden planks, beer cans, and all other conceivable types of garbage - indications of the ecological problems which have beset the waters near New York City, and elsewhere for that matter.

However, there are signs of better days past. Between Fort Wadsworth and South Beach stands the remains of a huge pier, originally built during World War II for the purpose of transporting soldiers to the ships waiting at the other end of the pier. Shortly after the War, the pier was destroyed by fire, leaving only the wooden pilings standing in the water. Old timers in the area still recall fishing for whiting during the winter months and the excellent crabbing afforded off the pier during the summer months.

The Fort Wadsworth, South Beach, Midland Beach area still yields school-sized striped bass which are caught with some frequency off the beaches, pilings, and the short cement "sidewalk-like" jetties. In the early morning and evening hours the "regulars" still fling their small white poppers and metal squids in search of the elusive striped bass and passing schools of bluefish. Small sand porgies, kingfish and blowfish can still be caught in varying quantities by bottom fishing.

A very interesting debate arises over the quality of the fish caught in this area. Many fishermen I have spoken to admit that they release their catches, since these fish, after spending a short time in the oil-laden waters, acquire an oily taste and hence become inedible. On the other hand, some fishermen, particularly bait dealers, claim that baking the fish will draw out the oily taste. They also argue that many fish have a nautral oily taste, and that striped bass, bluefish and weakfish rarely stay in one place, but instead are constantly on the move and do not have a chance to become affected by the polluted waters. Which side is right? It appears that both sides are right to a degree.

I have found that farther down the Staten Island shoreline - - towards Great Kills, Annadale and Tottenville - - excellent surf and jetty fishing await the fisherman both in quantity and quality of the fish caught. My experience in jetty fishing for weakfish is a case in point.

One hot, humid Saturday morning last July, discouraged by the poor showing of striped bass along the South Shore, I decided to try for weakfish off the jetty at Great Kills Marine Park. The jetty, a short extension of the bulkhead which runs along one side of Great Kills Harbor, separates the harbor side from the surf. When I arrived there were three other fishermen along the jetty, and their pails were filled with sand porgies and some kingfish. There were no weakfish caught yet.

I had brought along my 11½ foot surf rod and 307 Mitchell reel, filled with 15 pound test Stren monofilament line - - a combination which gives me excellent casting distance with a 2 ounce sinker. My rig consisted of a bank sinker tied to a three-way swivel with an 8 inch length of heavy monofilament, and a 5/0 Gold Mustad hook with an 18 inch leader. A whole sandworm covered the hook.

My first cast went straight into the harbor. I let the rig settle to the bottom, waited about 5 minutes, then moved the bait in a few feet. I repeated the process until I felt a series of sharp pulls - - a porgy which presently hooked himself on my 5/0 Mustad hook. I fished for about an hour, during which time I lost my bait to the numerous porgies, kingfish, blowfish and crabs which evidently covered the grounds near the jetty. Still, there were no weakfish.

A lonely figure in a small boat trolled back and forth about 100 yards off the tip of the jetty. Nothing. Presently, I moved to the tip of the jetty and tossed my rig straight out towards the ocean. My rig had no sooner settled to the bottom when I felt something pick up my bait and move rapidly away with it. I pulled back slightly on my rod, so as not to rip the hook out of the soft mouth of the weakfish. The weakfish gave me a surprisingly strong jolt in return, and my rod arched under his strong runs, swaying from one side to another. Within a few minutes I had my weakfish within sight near the jetty. Now came the most delicate part of the maneuver - - landing the soft-mouth weakfish without a landing net. I brought the weakfish as close to the jetty as I could, and then quickly swung him onto the rocks. Within the next twenty minutes I landed 4 more weakfish - - all between 16 and 18 inches long. Then the action stopped as the school of weakfish had passed. There were not at least a dozen boats which were following the weakfish out of the harbor. This scene was to be repeated many more times during the summer and early fall.

Although the insides of the weakfish gave up many small butterfish - which the school of weakfish were evidently chasing and feeding on, I have found that sandworms make a consistently excellent bait for weakfish in the Staten Island area. Other baits do not seem to be as effective in this area. One fisherman, who frequented the New Jersey shoreline, was using strips of squid and he drew a blank for the day. Another fisherman was using bloodworms and he also missed out on the action.

I also prefer the Mustad pattern c hooks - - sizes between 3/0 and 5/0, although these large hooks with long leaders have a tendency to snag the bottom often resulting in loss of rigging and line. Of course the major difficulty is landing the weakfish, especially when fishing from a high elevation, such as a jetty. A partner with a landing net is ideal, but I have found that the smaller weakfish can usually be lifted onto the jetty without the hooks ripping through the soft mouth. Landing a big weakfish requires extreme caution, and it is not wise to li

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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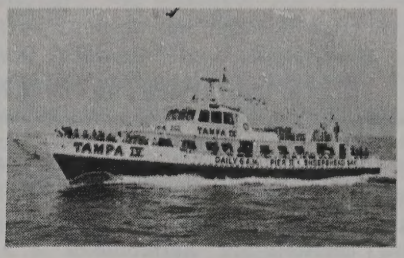

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CONNECTICUT SCENE

BY DICK ALLEY

THE RUINATION OF A BEAUTIFUL DAY

It was nice awakening to a summer-like sun beaming in the windows. Wolfing my breakfast, I walked out the back door, checked the thermometer at 51 degrees, sighed happily, and drove Lori to school, then on to work.

It was a beautiful happy morning until I picked up my copy of the Daily News. 100,000 FISH KILLED AT INDIAN POINT! I read the article, grunted satisfactorily when I noticed the plant had been shut down by the State, then winced when I found the closing was temporary.

We watched with interest that evening, when the TV news follow-up covered the story.

A representative of Cod Ed displayed a small bucket of small fish, and stated, it seemed to Mary Ann and I, sarcastically, that the 100,000 fish filled about two garbage cans. Maybe we're prejudiced, but we've had it from this utility.

All along, it's been the same story. The hell with the conservationists, the environmentalists, and anyone else voicing an opinion contrary to the views of Con Ed. Con Ed needs its power, and they're going to get it at all costs, except those involving money, that they, the Con Ed hierarchy don't wish to spend.

The next face on the screen was that of Robert Boyle, well known to every east coast fisherman, and a noted authority on fish, fishing, and especially the Hudson River. He estimated TEN MILLION FISH have been killed by Con Ed in recent years, and when asked if there was any alternative to the fish being killed, suggested closed circuit cooling, practiced by many utilities, but completely rejected by Con Ed.

These fish are not killed by radiation, and have little to do with the fact that this is a nuclear plant. In fact, the plant itself is not even in operation yet. Long before this plant was built, other even more disastrous fish-kills were common. The proposed plant at Storm King would kill the eggs even before they are hatched.

Screening seems to be the problem. Tremendous currents are generated at the intake pipes, sucking the fish against the screens, until they die. The majority of the fish are Striped Bass and White Perch.

Tests have shown that most of the Striped Bass in Long Island Sound are bred in the Hudson River, the estimate being around 80%. If that's the case, several million stripers have died prior to entering Long Island Sound in past years.

Every so often, I'll hear a fisherman talking about striped bass fishing the past couple of years, and he'll say it was great, fantastic, couldn't have been better. I ask him where he was in 1959 and 1960. How long it's been since I've seen a steady two weeks of bass breaking by the thousands over acres of water. How many seasons since I've been able to head out on a bright sunlit day at high noon, and be sure of returning with a striper or two from a favorite spot for the evening meal. It's been a long time. The striped bass population has dwindled, and is more probably decreasing astronomically.

Don't get me wrong. The utilities and the industries aren't the only polluters. The sportfisherman who sells stripers by the pound kills fish that should live. The commercial man who kills small bass but doesn't market them is cutting his own throat.

The Striped Bass is a noble fish. Yet, while the species dwindles on the east coast, the population flourishes off the California coast. Sensible laws and enforcement improve the fishing on a year to year basis there.

Are we afraid, greedy, stupid? Is it all that important to take home two twenty pound lunkers when one provides fish for a family get-together, and the other could be harmlessly released to thrill another angler at a later date? Can't we realize the blow to the economy we'd suffer if a major species like the striper were to vanish? The tackle industry, the boating industry, and even publications like this and others would suffer. Are we afraid to stand up for what we believe in?

That's probably what bothers me the most. Con Ed implies that the fish are unimportant, and if the conservationists don't get off their back, NYC is almost sure to suffer a black-out or at least a brown-out in the months to come. It's seldom there's a power failure of any kind these days, that it isn't blamed on those of us who want to protect our land and waters. Con Ed isn't afraid to spend money. They've spent many thousands on the fight for Storm King. It goes to their lawyers, researchers, public-relations men, paid biologists, anybody who can sell their side of the story to the public.

Our side of the story is simply this. We love the sport of fishing. We're completely convinced that fishing in this area is deteriorating, and that the operation of plants like Indian Point 2 and Storm King will result in an end to good fishing in the Hudson River and Long Island Sound. Sure, we'll have blacks, mackerel, and the rapidly diminishing flounder. If we're lucky bluefish will continue year after year, providing us with four months of outstanding fishing. Stripers are still the mainstay of Long Island Sound fishing. The season runs from April to November. Mr. Boyle suggested an alternative to the fish-killing methods of Con Ed. There has to be such an alternative, and it has to work. It's up to us to demand it, if not for our own interests, for those of our children and grandchildren. I'm pretty sure my son will catch his first bass in the coming year. If I'm still around, I hope to see his son do the same, but without a change, I doubt it.

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SOUTHSIDE REPORTS

by BOB LEE

FRONT PAGE PHOTO

The South Bay Fishing Station sent the first photo of flounders for 1972. The happy anglers pictured here caught 80 flounders, "mostly big ones," at Buoy 5 off Heckscher State Park. Bloodworms and mussels were the baits.

MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Forsberg, skipper of the "Viking Star," reports that Saturday was a banner day, both on cod and pollack. There were over 470 fish taken on Saturday. The pool winner was 18 pounds, and the average size was 7 to 8 pounds. Capt. Forsberg fished a wreck off of Block Island. On Sunday, the fishing picture was quite different. Only 120 fish were caught at the Block Island grounds. Capt. Forsberg said the poor fishing was due mainly to the bad weather we had that day. The Montauk cod fishermen are looking forward to the spring run of cod.

Capt. Richard Rade, skipper of the "Marlin III," reports that the codfishing was very slow over the weekend. "On Saturday, we fished the Cartwright Grounds and managed to pick up a few fish, but nothing to brag about. On Sunday, the fishing was about the same fishwise, but the area was different. We plied the waters around Block Island."

MORICHES

Capt. Ron Schlueter, skipper of the "Alma," reports that flounder fishing is slow. "We fished Forge River on Saturday and were rewarded with a fair catch. Buoy 27 seemed to hold more fish but many were lost because they were sucking the bait and many of my fares were striking too soon. The flounders are in; it's just a matter of time before they become active. Then the fishermen won't have to set the hook; they will hook themselves."

Jack Jones of the Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station reports that although we aren't open yet (St. Patty's Day is the big day). the flounder fishing has gotten off to a fair start. Local anglers, using their own boats, are plying the waters around Buoy 27. The fishing can't be rated excellent at this area, but it should get better as the weather gets milder.

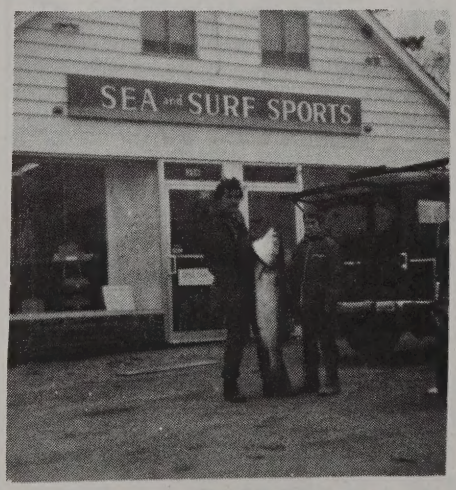
BABYLON

Augie Principe of Augie's Bait & Tackle reports flounder fishing is off to a fine start in the waters off of Heckscher State Park. Three members of the Babylon Tuna Club made their first excursion of the year for flatties and were rewarded with two dozen plump fish. The anglers were fishing aboard John Bilitsky's boat, the Norma-Bee. Bloodworms were used for bait. Augie's Bait Shop will open officially on Friday (St. Patty's Day).

CAPTREE

Capt. Ben Litwin, skipper of the open boat of the same name, reports that on Saturday and Sunday they had loads of fat flounders. "We fished off Heckscher State Park with worms. My daughter had 29 fish on Saturday. Most of my customers took 15 to 20 fish. Some of the better anglers ahd 25 to 30 good sized flounders. This was our first trip of the year and I can only say I hope it continues as it was this past weekend."

Capt. George Tweedy, skipper of the "Capt. Scotty," reports that the fishing is getting better every day. "On Saturday, we fished the waters off of Heckscher State Park and had 10 to 15 good sized fish per man. On Sunday, we headed east towards Patchogue and Fire Island (Cherry Grove). The fishing was slow at this area. The waters off of Heckscher seem to be best now, however, the other areas should pick up in a couple of weeks."



Here we have a repeat of Dan Marchand with his 57 lb. striped bass, only this time appearing with Dan is Danny, Jr. Danny, Jr. played an important role in the catching of this monstrous fish. It seems Dan, Sr. hooked and successfully battled the fish to defeat, but he was caught with his gaff down; that is, he left his gaff in the buggy, which was quite a distance away. Dan, Jr. had to high-tail it to the buggy and return with the gaff in time. The combination of father son teamwork can't be beat!

SEAFORD

Carmine Dell of Dell's Fishing Station reports that flounder fishing has picked up considerably in the last week. On Saturday, Joe Chearelli and a friend fished between the Wantagh and Goose Neck bridges. These anglers took six keeper size flounders on clam bait. On Sunday, an angler named Little Charlie used clam and clam chum to take four good sized flounders. Many more fish were taken, but they were all throwbacks.

WANTAGH

Bill Marrinan of the Causeway Bait & Tackle reports that a few flounders have been caught from the Jones Beach fishing pier. Bill said there is no real concentration of flatties in this area. "These fish are spread out and still a little small." Bloodworms and mussels turn the trick in the bait department.

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger, skipper of the "Star Stream," reports that codfishing is very slow right now. "On Saturday, we picked a few cod up to 14 pounds. This was my first trip since coming back from a vacation and I really didn't expect too much. As with the other offshore boats in this area, we are anxiously awaiting the spring run of cod." Capt. Kessinger said that from all reports he has received, the flounder fishing is getting better every day.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Henry Thorschmidt, skipper of the "Blue Albatross II," reports that the flounder fishing is still a bit on the slow side. "On Saturday, we had about 7 people aboard and the average catch was 15 to 20 flounders. Most of the fish were taken on worms in the channel at Oceanside. Squaw Island produced a few flatties, but the bulk of our catch was made in the channel.

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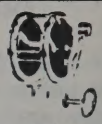

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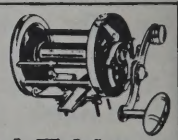

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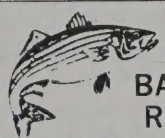

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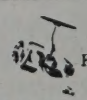

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play it in. But forget the conditions! Personally, I believe fish are where you find them. Theories are all right - when they work . . . But remember, striped bass is a sickness, a sickness. Relax, sometimes."

This advice Sol has set to a phyme, which ends:

"So my friend, when fishin' is bad
Stop your kickin'
Keep your eyes OPEN
Relax - and eat your chicken."

Sol writes poems. All are funny; but none are merely comical. He enjoys this self-expression. All are on surf fishing. One poem, "The Tribulations of a Surfman," is understandably the longest: four pages of stanzas, typed! It tells what you have to go through before you beach your first 30-pounder. Then finally you get a 30. And the poem ends:

"So now you are a surfman,
and many miles you'll roam;
Say goodbye to your family,
the beach is now your home!"

"And that's what I did," Sol adds; rapping me on the chest. "I made the whole east coast my home."

TIDAL WETLANDS ACT

But this note to L.I.F. readers is not a lesson on the importance of salt marshes. It is a plea for you to write your New York State representative and senator supporting the Tidal Wetlands Act (5364).

WE MUST HAVE THIS BILL.

(If you do not know your local congressman, write Bernard C. Smith, The Senate, State of New York, Albany, New York 12224.)

OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT THE JETTY JOCKEY AT STATEN ISLAND

them. I can remember several instances of chasing weakfish which had fallen off the hook onto the slippery rocks near the water. However, I managed to maintain a perfect record in not losing any weakfish this year.

The recnet appearance of weakfish has been a new attraction for the surfcaster. They are not as fickle and unpredictable as the striped bass. Tides and weather do not seem to influence their feeding habits, at least at Great Kills Park. I have caught them at flood tides and dead low tides, incoming and outgoing tides, during sunny or rainy weather. They are fairly consistent and reliable - - quite a change from the fact that surfcasting has become such a waiting game in recent years. They are excellent fighters, attain a good size, and the fish which I caught at Great Kills made excellent eating - - no oily taste.

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John DeRose, Jr., of Point Pleasant, N.J., displays the catch he made aboard Howard Bogan's Jamaica during her first special offshore cod and pollack trip on Feb. 7th.

WILL AUTOMATION RUIN FISHING

finder and a fish caller and you know the fish will be waiting for you. The rod and reel will cast as far as you want with accuracy every time even though you never used it before. The lure on your line is guaranteed to make any fish in the area hit without fail.

The boat you fish from will be completely automatic. You set some dials and push some buttons and it will take you to any fishing spot you want. After you finish fishing you dump the fish in the automatic fish cleaner and set the boat on its course for home while you take a nap in the bunk below. When that day comes I think I'll hang up my rod for good. In fishing, when everything becomes too easy and too certain, the fun, joy and sport are gone.

afford to have the best equipment and labor-saving devices and gadgets why shouldn't he make use of them?

Well, my idea of "sport" is to give the fish a fighting chance and not take unfair advantage of its vulnerability. You fail to do this if you use too many gadgets and gimmicks to help you. With modern technology it's simple to invent or develop devices which will make fishing easy and simple.

If fishing becomes too easy you fail to enjoy it as much or get complete satisfaction from it. That is why many hunters who have killed deer with a rifle have turned to the bow-and-arrow. It is more difficult, requires stalking skill and offers more of a challenge than hunting with a rifle.

I also believe that fishing should be totally different from everyday living. When I leave for the country or ocean I don't want to bring the city and its gadgets or even comforts along with me. I want to leave behind mechanical contrivances, TV, autos, steam-heated apartments, crowded highways and streets and the roar of motors and machines which I am forced to listen to most of the year. I want some quiet and solitude which the wilderness and ocean offer. After smelling gasoline and furnaces and factory fumes, I crave some pure air.

If we don't watch out, we'll make fishing so easy and artificial that it will lose most of its appeal. Already they have docks and fishing barges on lakes in some of our states where you can fish INDOORS! They are heated in the winter and air-conditioned in the summer. For a dollar or so you can sit in a comfortable chair or sofa, watch television, play cards, drink coffee or beer just like at home. There's a wide opening in the center of the floor through which you can fish if you want to.

I can see the day coming when a helicopter will take you right to the fishing spot. You turn on an electronic fish

These three Long Islanders bagged 11 birds on a recent trip to the T.M.T. Hunting Preserve. They are, left to right, Milton Parker, Frank Rama, and Larry Lustig.

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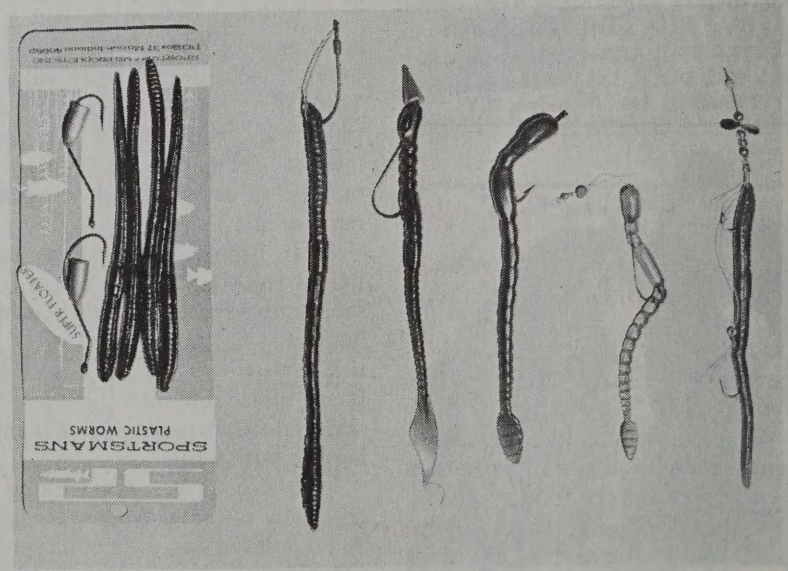
PLASTIC WORMS
by E.H. GLASSHAGEL

Plastic worms have been on the market for over twenty years, but it has only been in the last five or six years that they have accounted for numerous lunker fish. This success is attributed to the method of rigging and twitching or jigging in the retrieve.

There are numerous methods for rigging as indicated in the photo. Number 1 is purchased pre-rigged, numbers 2 and 3 you will note have drastic contortion of the worm and causes line twist which can be eliminated to a degree by using a barrel swivel approximately a foot in front of the rig. Split shot can be added for weight. No. 5 is simply a weedless hook inserted a quarter or half-inch into the head of a worm. No. 4 is the slip sinker weedless rig and the most popular method.



To assemble a slip sinker rig, first run your line through the front of the sinker and tie to the hook with an improved clinch knot. Then insert the hook a half-inch into the worm head, pulling the hook back through the worm until the eye of the hook remains embedded about a quarter of an inch in the worm. Then turn the hook around until the barb faces the worm and can be inserted into the soft plastic band to cause a weedless lure. For the best action, the worm should be completely straight with the line. You must be sure to pinch the worm forward some when embedding the barb so that when the barb is inserted the worm comes back straight and even. All the items necessary for this type of rig are available in kit form as illustrated and stocked by Charlie's Bait & Tackle 175 East Montauk Highway, Lindenhurst N.Y.

The colors of purple, black, and blue have proven the most productive for bodies of water on Long Island and the New York areas.

When jigging or twitching the worm rig, cast out and let the rig settle to the bottom. Begin retrieve by lifting your rod tip slowly upward. (DO NOT REEL). This will raise your rig slightly off the bottom or will begin to crawl you over the bottom. Then at the 11 o'clock position begin reeling up the slack by slowly lowering your rod tip toward the water, always keeping the line tight and NOT MOVING THE BAIT. You can continue these movements working your way along the bottom and through weeds, brush. etc. At times, while retrieving, you will feel your bait drip off different bottom structures, and when it does, be sure to let it sink to the bottom if possible and let it lay there momentarily giving it a twitch or two and then continue your retrieve. There will be times when you feel as if your rig is hung up, but DO NOT YANK IT, just let your line drop back and most of the time you will be free.

During the course of this method, should you feel as if a fish has picked up the rig and your rod is in the 11 o'clock position, lower and allow the fish to run approximately the length of your rod and no more. Then set the hook for all you are worth. The results in many amazing instances will be a lip hooked fishing mad fish.

In my recipes I specify the use of certain herbs and spices. This does not mean that they can't be substituted for others. Each family has their own likes and dislikes. Almost all herbs can be used in the preparation of fish. Dill, tarragon, basil, marjoram, bay leaf, pickling spices, vinegar, curry, oregano, sage, thyme, chives, paprika, garlic and many more. The only ones I have never used are the sweet ones, such as cinnamon or ginger. Perhaps someone has a good recipe using these.

When trying a new dish which either I have read in a magazine or newspaper, I follow it to the 't'. But the second time one would never know it was the same dish. I'm a great sniffer and taster. Our family happens to like fish on the juicy side and vegetables just pierceable, so don't hesitate to change or correct my cooking instructions to your own tastes.

As an example, many cooks grind their clams for chowder or stuffed clams. I chop them coarsely. With venison, we like it on the pink side, as also lamb. I have never had to marinate a roast or steak of deer meat as many people do. Treat a steak of venison as you would beef and a leg or shoulder as lamb. The only different thing I do is to take a piece of cheese cloth large enough to cover the roast and soak it in melted butter or margarine and wrap it around the roast while baking, and instead of the mint jelly, which is traditional with lamb, make a thick brown gravy and to this add one small can of whole cranberry sauce and a couple of ounces of red wine. It makes a most delicious gravy for venison. Had this one time for company dinner and everyone thought they were eating leg of lamb, and there were a few that if they knew it was deer meat wouldn't have touched it. (Revealed this to them later!) The only time I use a marinade for venison is when the summer comes and it's cookout time. (Making Shish Kabob - skewered venison).

Cut venison in 1-inch cubes and marinate for several hours or overnight. Place a piece of meat on skewer, alternating with a chunk of pineapple, onion, potato, mushroom, a piece of green pepper and a cherry tomato. Repeat till skewer is full. (Use canned, small whole cooked potatoes and onions.) Mushrooms, green pepper and tomato should be fresh. Serve with a tossed salad and warm garlic bread.

Now I haven't forgotten that this is "The Long Island Fisherman," but many of the anglers that read this magazine also go hunting and thought you might still have some venison in your freezer.

To get back to fish, which is what every fisherman is thinking or now, using the same above ingredients, but substituting fillet of fish cut in one or two inch cubes (if fish fillets are thin, put several pieces together). Do not marinate fish, instead make a sweet-sour sauce to which the fish may be dipped in or melted butter to which some lemon juice has been added; also tartar sauce may be used. Here again I say it depends on your family's taste. Good luck.

J.T.
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FRESH WATER ANGLING

Camp Bauman and walk south west to the lake.

Now as for my personal choices, my No. 1 choice would be the Connetquot River in Oakdale. It has a good number of sea run browns and a fine supply of brookies and rainbows, that have escaped the Sportsman's Club, to put the icing on the cake. The pool on Sunrise Highway always produces a few nice fish, but there's usually a mob scene there on opening day. If you are lucky enough to have a small boat, you will find a ramp for it on Connetquot Road. This road is just south of the Bayard Cutting Arboretum on Rte. 27A, about a mile and a half south. Try the brackish or salt end of the river in the area around the Snapper Inn.

My second choice would be the Nissequogue. The same conditions hold true here as on the Connetquot. It will be crowded in the areas north and south of Jericho Turnpike, so try the brackish water all the way out to the Sound. You may not take many fish but you may catch some that will be well worth the effort. All the tidal creeks mentioned earlier offer the same potential. They all hold some real lunkers. All you have to do is get out there and find them.

My last choice would be Southaven Park. The park receives a heavy stocking all year and there are always some good fish in there waiting to be taken. I proved that to myself last opening day with a 3½ pound brown. I'd wager he still has a few friends there waiting for your hook.

I expect to get to many of these places on opening day and I'd like to take some pictures of the good fish you catch. Be sure to go out there and get them. I'll be looking for you all, but if I miss you and you've caught anything worth taking a picture of, do so and mail them to me at my home address: 7 Sheppard Court, Brentwood, N.Y. 11717 or else they can reach me at the Long Island Fisherman. We will do our best to get them published.

Don't forget that I'll appreciate any pictures or correspondence about your fishing exploits throughout the coming season. Your questions and comments are necessary to keep the column worthwhile.

Meanwhile, while you're at our favorite sport, help keep our waters clear and running free, and fish for fun.

he would soon be served. "I also would like to ask some information of the owner," he informed Carl.

Carl smiled strangely, so the man turned his gaze elsewhere. It fell on the Perfessor's plug which the tall man, now sweating profusely in his wet suit, was quietly fondling. "My that's a large plug you have there. What do you expect to catch with it?"

The Perfessor turned toward the speaker, snapped his lure off the counter, and pointed it ominously at the man's face. "This plug is just two hours from inside the mouth of the largest striped bass ever seen on this earth, and that is what it was made for, imbicile!" He then turned and left for his jeep.

The man wanted to follow, having lost interest in whatever it was he wanted to buy. However, a short, wirey man, resembling a belaying pin, appeared at the front door.

"Yeah! And what do you want? If you want worms, go dig 'em yourself; if you want boat tackle, go over to Tuna's; whatever else you want, we probably don't have, and if we did it'd probably be too expensive for you. And this ain't no chamber of commerce, so don't expect printed instructions on how to catch a fifty pound bass, see! Now these guys here are the regulars. They don't bother me and I don't bother them. I know damn well they buy their tackle at Teddy's and come out here, but I don't give a damn either. If they break their rod at the point, or tear their waders at the Watermellon's, I'm the only guy they can come to. See! And besides that, I'm the sole distributor of Dental Floss Fishing Line from here to Canoe Place (where Altenjerk takes over) and everybody's got to have Dental Floss Line, which is yellow and is stronger than any other line in the world. Our ten pound test will hold the weight of a full grown man of almost two hundred pounds. And we have other colors too, like Purple and Glow-In-The-Dark. So what is it you want anyway, I'm busy."

"I really don't want to bother you, Mr. Chronic, but I wanted to know if you could sell me some ice, and if it would not be too much trouble, could you allow me to weigh a couple of fish on your scale?"

"For cries sake!" bellowed Chronic. "Hey, Big Billie, will you and The Nose take care of this tourist. I'm going upstairs for a rest." And with that Mr. Chronic departed, not to be seen for days.

Big Billie and The Nose brought out a small plastic bag of ice, which they found in the eel refrigerator. "Here you go, Mister. One dollar."

"Oh my, that seems a bit high," replied the surprised customer, "and I was hoping to purchase about a hundred pounds of ice."

"What the hell for," asked Bob the Beggar, who began to take some interest in the conversation.

"For the fish in our trunk. They'll surely spoil if we don't cover them with ice."

"What kind of fish, exactly, do you have in your trunk?" asked Louie the Loser.

"Striped bass, of course. I thought that is what one catches out here at Monamug."

"Well, let's just see them rats," interjected The Nose. "Drive around to the back and bring 'em into the weighing-in area. That is if you can carry them. Har har!" All the men laughed.

The customer left the store and drove around to the back, but no one paid the slightest attention to the man until he reappeared to tell them all to come and see his catch. One by one the surf regulars sauntered back to the weigh-in area. There on the floor, by the big scale - which went optimistically up to 250 lbs. - lay a dozen striped bass which ranged in weight from about twenty to over forty pounds.

"Where in the world did you get these?" someone blurted unthinkingly.

"Near the lighthouse," said the man, "just this morning."

No one said anything, although every man in the room had about a dozen questions he wanted to ask.

Just then the Perfessor walked into the room. The large plug was still in his hand, but he was out of his wet suit, and into the grey pinstriped suit he wore on all occasions other than surf fishing.

He glanced at the big load of fish, noticed the scale dip to 38½ pounds as the first bass was dropped on the scale, and said: "Just met Felix the Wonderful. He said they killed them at the Fort at dawn. Awful Augie took six fish up to eight pounds."

"Yeah, Prof," whispered Bob the Beggar, "but look at this, willya?"

"What? Have you guys gone crazy?" came back the Perfessor in a loud, sur voice. "Didn't you notice the 12 foo Comet-Craft behind this guy's car? THES ARE BOAT FISH!"

A tremendous sigh of relief passe through the crowd of regulars, wh immediately dropped the fish they we holding to put on the scale, and walke back to their regular positions in th regular tackle shop where they spent th better part of their regular lives.

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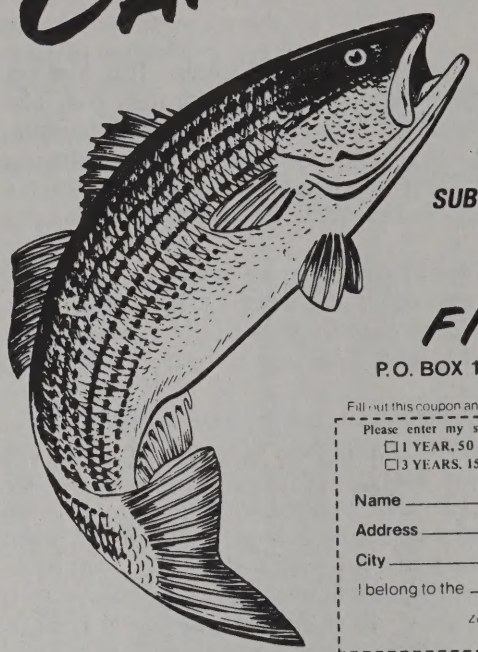
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ATLANTIC BEACH TO MANASQUAN
By Greg Beacher

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station reported the weather hasn't been favorable, but the new season has started. Skip Gerdes, of Lawrence, fished just one mile south of the East Rockaway Jetty last Saturday. There he caught 4 cod from 5 to 21 pounds. Along with his catch, there were 4 yellowtail flounders up to 1½ pounds. Charlie Keller of Elmont and Walter Yackel fished the same area that day. They caught 3 cod from 3 to 10 pounds and lost 4 other fish.

Flounder fishing locally is starting to take shape. At Buoy 10 of Reynolds Channel, sea flounders up to 1½ pounds are being caught on worm and mussel baits. The best fishing takes place during slack water. Duck Point and Bannister Creek are your best flounder spots. The flounder fishing has gotten underway here and action should pick up as weather conditions improve.

JAMAICA BAY

John Brando of Cross Bay Rod & Gun Shop reported he is now open for the season. The weather hasn't been the greatest, but they're open. John said he has worms and mussels in stock and that there is some flounder activity locally and at Silver Hole. All we need now is some good weather and for spring to make her presence known.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Whiting fishing took a turn for the best last weekend. Party boats located good whiting fishing at the Mud Hole and at Ambrose Tower. Fishing conditions were excellent at the Mud Hole last Saturday. The favorable weather permitted the boats to drift for whiting. With this condition prevailing, anglers averaged up to and over 40 whiting per man. On Sunday, weather conditions were off somewhat and boats were forced to anchor. Anglers averaged from 15 to 30 whiting per man, which is a good day's fishing anytime.

At Scallop Ridge, cod and sea flounders have moved into the area. The fishing there has developed into a fair pick. Private boats fishing there last weekend caught up to 4 cod per boat, per day. Sea flounders up to 1½ pounds were mixed in.

George Gnad of the Bay End Dock reported they are now open for the new season, as flounder fishing has started locally along bay and pier areas. By this weekend, weather permitting, flounder fishing should become productive. Nothing has happened yet to really speak of, however, it won't be long before we're in full swing.

This Friday night, the Tampa IV will be making her first special offshore giant cod and pollack trip of the season. The Tampa IV will be sailing at 11 p.m. sharp. There are some openings; call for information. On Friday, March 25th, the Ranger IV will be making the first tile fish trip at the Hudson Canyon this season. The Ranger IV will be sailing at 11 p.m. sharp. For further information, call 934-6070.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reported the Staten Island area is still quiet as far as flounder fishing goes. There are some anglers trying here and there but nothing has happened that's worth mentioning. The weather is still off somewhat, however, spring will be here soon. Within two weeks, flounder fishing throughout the Staten Island area should become productive.

SANDY HOOK

Flounder fishing at the Shrewsbury River is the best around. There are some flounders being caught there. It's still a bit early and anglers and flounders have not become abundant yet. Party boats for the Highlands and the Atlantic Highlands are doing quite well with whiting fishing at the Mud Hole and at Ambrose Tower. Over last weekend, party boats from this port reported excellent catches on Saturday and good whiting catches on Sunday.

SHARK RIVER

Capt. Al Shinn of the Miss Belmar reported that whiting fishing was pretty good last week. They have been fishing the west side of the Mud Hole for whiting. It seems as the weather improves, the whiting are moving closer and closer to the beach. Last Saturday, fishing was very good and anglers averaged up to 50 whiting per man. Flounder fishing along Shark River has developed into some good fishing. Off by the south end of the Belmar Marine Basin, anglers are chumming for action. They are crushing up mussels which they scrape off of the bottom of docks. It seems that the mussel chum really works as some anglers are catching as many flounders as they want. Another good flounder spot here has been by the L Street Bathing Beach. Anglers fishing just off the beach are connecting for action.

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DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	8:14	8:34
Sat.	9:00	9:21
Sun.	9:53	10:12
Mon.	10:45	11:08
Tues.	11:45	------
Wed.	12:05	12:45
Thur.	1:09	1:49
	2:15	3:00

	H.	M.
MANASQUAN	-0	12
STATEN ISLAND	+0	07
ROCKAWAY INLET	0	00
Bergen Beach	+0	29
J.F.K. Airport	+0	26
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	-0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
JONES INLET	-0	19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Gilgo Island	+2	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
FIRE ISLAND INLET	-0	38
West Great South Bay	+2	10
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
East Great South Bay	+3	44
MORICHES INLET	-0	56
Smiths Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potuak Point	+3	35
SHINNECOCK INLET	-0	50
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05

TIDES: L.I. SOUND
WILLETS POINT STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	11:38	11:55
Sat.	12:25	------
Sun.	12:44	1:12
Mon.	1:31	2:07
Tues.	2:27	3:08
Wed.	3:30	4:35
Thur.	5:03	6:04
	6:32	7:18

	H.	M.
Little Neck Bay	-0	10
Execution Light	-0	06
Manhasset Bay	-0	01
Hempstead Harbor	-0	11
City Island	-0	03
Rye Beach	-0	28

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GENE KOWALSKI'S

NEW! Complete activity tables!

The ACTIVITY CHARTS show the most probable feeding times for fish and wildlife each day, calculated from the relative positions of the sun, the moon, and the earth, A.M. means midnight to noon; P.M. means noon to midnight. PRIMARY activity periods (black arrows) last approximately two to three hours; SECONDARY activity periods (white arrows) last about an hour.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
ACTIVITY a.m.								
ACTIVITY p.m.								
1972 mo. date day	16 MAR	17 MAR	18 MAR	19 MAR	20 MAR	21 MAR	22 MAR	23 MAR
MOON phase	●	●	●	●	●	◐	◑	☾
MOON age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
MOON dec.	N06°	N13°	N18°	N23°	N25°	N27°	N26°	N24°
MOON rise	6:26	6:57	7:33	8:15	9:06	10:04	11:03	12:16
MOON set	8:01	9:19	10:37	11:43	12:18	12:57	1:54	2:40
SUN rise	6:11	6:10	6:08	6:06	6:04	6:03	6:02	6:00
SUN set	6:08	6:09	6:10	6:11	6:12	6:13	6:14	6:15

STANDARD TIME: Bold Face, P.M.; Light Face, A.M.

* THE MOON IN MARCH *

A – Moon in Apogee, March 4, 2:00 p.m.
◑ – Last Quarter, March 8, 2:05 a.m.
S – Farthest S. of Equator, March 8, 9:00 a.m.
E – Moon on the Equator, March 15, 1:00 a.m.
● – New Moon, March 15, 6:35 a.m.
P – Moon in Perigee, March 16, 4:00 p.m.
N – Farthest N. of Equator, March 21, 4:00 a.m.
◐ – First Quarter, March 21, 9:12 a.m.
E – Moon on the Equator, March 28, 3:00 a.m.
○ – Full Moon, March 29, 3:05 p.m.

ADD 6 HOURS FOR LOW TIDE

TIDES: L.I. SOUND
BRIDGEPORT STATION

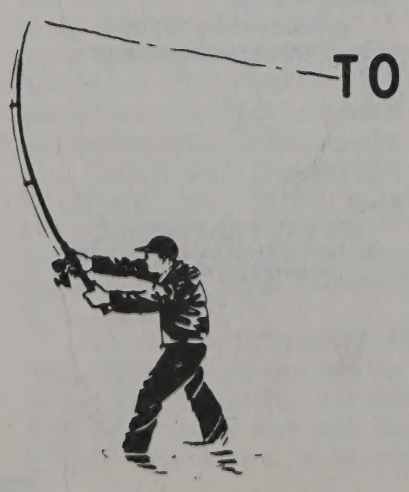
DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.	11:41	------
Fri.	12:01	12:29
Sat.	12:49	1:17
Sun.	1:38	2:11
Mon.	2:31	3:09
Tues.	3:33	4:12
Wed.	4:39	5:21
Thur.	5:48	6:28

	H.	M.
Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	-0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jeff Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	-0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	08
Herod Point	-0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	-0	20
Truman Beach	-0	42

TIDES: B.I. SOUND
NEW LONDON STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	9:41	10:00
Sat.	10:30	10:50
Sun.	11:21	11:43
Mon.	12:15	------
Tues.	12:38	1:17
Wed.	1:39	2:25
Thur.	2:50	3:37
	4:03	4:51

	H.	M.
Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	-0	14
Fort Pond Bay	-0	29
Montauk Inlet	-0	25
Montauk Point	-1	13



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